

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Former Springfield Attorney Sentenced for Defrauding Clients**

Springfield, IL - A former Springfield attorney, William James Hogan, age 45, of Elmwood Park, Illinois, was ordered to serve twelve months in federal prison for defrauding several former clients in an investment fraud scheme, as announced by Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois. U.S. District Judge Jeanne E. Scott allowed the defendant to serve the first four months of his sentence under home confinement and the balance to be served at a federal correctional institution. Judge Scott further ordered Hogan to pay restitution in the amount of \$86,167 to victims of the scheme and the Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission, which had partially reimbursed two of the victims. Hogan was ordered to report to the federal Bureau of Prisons on January 15, 2007, to begin serving his sentence.

Hogan pled guilty in February 2006 to two counts of wire fraud. Hogan admitted defrauding investors, from spring 1997 to September 2003, by falsely representing that funds entrusted to him would be used to purchase investments on their behalf. Instead, Hogan used the funds for his own benefit, including, among other things, to pay for his rent and living expenses. Hogan also used a portion of the investors' funds to pay other investors so that it would appear that he had used their money to purchase profitable, income-producing investments. According to the plea agreement, approximately \$63,000 of the funds was used to make payments to investors disguised as a return on their investments. The total loss to investors from the fraud was approximately \$86,000.

The case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted by  
Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregory K. Harris.

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